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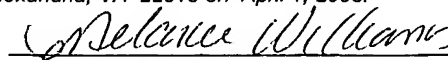


Attorney Docket No. MP/177

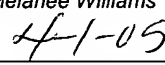
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Bauman et al.
Appl. No. : 10/666,204
Filed : September 17, 2003
Title : CIRCULAR STAPLER BUTTRESS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on April 1, 2005.


Melanee Williams

Group AU : 3731


(date of mailing document)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified Patent Application:

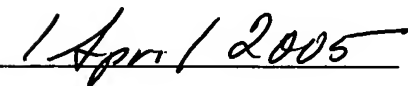
1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (1 page)
2. Information Disclosure Citation Form PTO 1449 (1 page)
3. Foreign Reference Cited (1 document)

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Sheets
Reg. No. 30,326
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.
551 Paper Mill Road
P.O. Box 9206
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(928) 864-4015

Date:





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Melanie Williams
Melanee Williams

Group AU : 3731

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Copies of each of the non-patent and foreign patent references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449 are enclosed herewith.

In accordance with § 1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above-identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, no additional fee is required.

Respectfully Submitted,

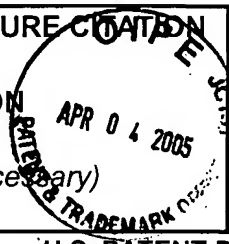
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number MP/177	Serial Number 10/666,204
	Applicant(s) Bauman et al.	
	Filing Date September 17, 2003	Group Art Unit 3731



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation YES / NO	
	03/082126	26.03.2002	WO				

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.